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And the turf-mounds, once girt by ruddy spears,  
 And the rock-altars of departed years.  
 Thence, deeply mingling with the torrent's roar,  
 The winds a thousand wild responses bore;  
 And the green land, whose every vale and glen  
 Doth shrine the memory of heroic men,  
 On all her hills awakening to rejoice,  
 Sent forth proud answers to her children's voice.

For us,—not ours the festival to hold  
 'Midst the stone-circles hallowed thus of old;  
 Not where great Nature's majesty and might  
 First broke all glorious on our wond'ring sight;  
 Not near the tombs, where sleep our free and brave,  
 Not near the mountain *llyn*, the ocean wave,  
 In these last days we meet,—dark Mona's shore,  
 Eryri's cliffs, resound with harps no more;  
 But as the stream (tho' time or art may turn  
 The torrent bursting from its cavern'd urn,  
 To the soft vales of pastures and of flowers,  
 From Alpine glens and awful forest bowers,)   
 Alike in rushing strength, or sunny sleep,  
 Holds on its course, to mingle with the deep;  
 Thus, though our paths be chang'd, still warm and free,  
 Land of the Bard, our spirit flies to thee,  
 To thee our thoughts, our hopes, our hearts belong,  
 Our dreams are haunted by thy voice of song:  
 Nor yield our souls one patriot feeling less  
 To the green memory of thy loveliness,  
 Than theirs, whose harp-notes peal'd from every height  
 "In the Sun's face, beneath the eye of light."

### Monthly Register.

#### CYMMRODORION.

THE Second Anniversary of the Cymmrodorion was celebrated, on the 22nd of last month, at the Freemason's Tavern, and that too with an *éclat*, which affords the best possible

earnest of the "All hail hereafter." And, if the zeal of the future is to bear any proportion with the apathy of the past, a splendid day indeed has already shed its dawning light on the land of the Cymry. To the patriotic example of those distinguished individuals, who have formed so honourable an exception to the general indifference of their countrymen on this occasion, must this result be mainly ascribed; but it must not be forgotten, how much is also due to the varied fascinations of the Cambrian Euterpe, who was never seen to more advantage than at the recent Cymmrodorion *Eisteddfod*, where, under the more refined graces of modern times, she often revealed the homely, yet captivating, charms of her primitive mountain attire.

The Anniversary may be described, generally, as having been devoted to three objects:—musical festivity, business, and conviviality. The first of these was the chief aim of the *Eisteddfod*, which took place in the morning;—the second of the General-Meeting, by which it was succeeded;—and the third of the Annual Dinner in the evening. We shall give as full a report of these several meetings, as our space will permit.

Soon after eleven o'clock the arrival of company at Freemasons' Hall, denoted the near approach of the *Eisteddfod*; and, before half-past twelve, that spacious apartment was nearly filled with a most respectable assemblage, including a considerable portion of rank and fashion, but more distinguished, perhaps, by the female beauty which diffused over the interesting scene its own peculiar lustre and animation. About the period just mentioned the commencement of the *Eisteddfod* was announced, in the temporary and unavoidable absence of the President, Sir W. W. Wynn, by Lord Kenyon, who briefly and neatly explained the objects of this national festival. A few observations of the same tenour were then made by Mr. Humffreys Parry, as "Conductor of the Cymmrodorion Transactions," and were succeeded by a short address in Welsh to the same purpose, and remarkable for the fluency and propriety with which it was delivered, by Mr. Griffith Jones, Sub-Librarian of the Society. After him Mr. Humffreys

Parry again appeared before the Meeting, and gave, extempore, an historical outline of these national assemblies from the most ancient notices of their existence under the Druids, through the various periods of their revival by the Welsh Bards, whether as *Gorseddau* or *Eisteddfodau*, down to the æra of their present auspicious re-establishment under the patronage of the Cymmrodorion and the Societies in Wales \*. This being done, the same gentleman read a copy of beautiful verses, written by Mrs. Hemans, for the occasion, and which we have inserted in a foregoing page. To this would have succeeded the recital of some Welsh compositions in prose and verse, had it not been considered advisable not to detain the company, by any farther preliminary proceedings, from the particular object of the *Eisteddfod*. In a preceding page may be found a short ode, one of the pieces thus withheld, and which we particularly recommend to the notice of the Welsh reader. It is from the pen of Mr. Owen Pughe.

The festivities of the morning now commenced. But, ere we describe them, we should first state, that the chair † had been some time previously taken by the President, Sir W. W. Wynn, who had only been prevented from being earlier at his post by his patriotic attention to the interests of Wales in another place ‡. His arrival was hailed by the company with long and loud cheering, and more especially, as the particular cause of his absence had been explained by the noble lord, who announced the opening of the *Eisteddfod*.

We are not aware that we can give a more satisfactory report of the musical performances than by first particularising

\* In p. 108 of this volume (No. 24) may be found a paper on the same subject, but which admits of considerable enlargement.

† The chair, in which Sir W. W. Wynn sat on this occasion, was the one belonging to the old Cymmrodorion, established in 1751, and was presented to that Society by the Sir Watkin of that day, grandfather, we believe, of the gentleman who, at present, so worthily bears the name. This chair is now the property of the Gwyneddigion, from whose rooms it was moved for this *Eisteddfod*.

‡ As far as we could catch the explanation, publicly given, on this subject, both by Lord Kenyon and Sir W. W. Wynn himself, the cause of this gentleman's inability to be present at the opening of the *Eisteddfod* was his attendance upon Lord Liverpool, to endeavour to procure a remission of the duty on coal carried coast-wise in Wales, and in which, we understood him to say, he was successful.

them as they appear in books of the day, and by subjoining a few remarks on their most prominent features. The entertainments, then, of this Cambrian Concert were divided into two Parts, and embraced, it will be seen, a happy variety of vocal and instrumental airs, accompanied by the national strains of the Cymry. The following was the arrangement.

#### PART I.

1. GLEE AND CHORUS—"On the landing of the Romans in Britain."—Air—"Capt. Morgan's March." (*The words by Mrs. Hemans.*)
2. SONG by Mr. Parry.—Air—"Good humoured and merry." (*The words by Mr. Parry.*)
3. AIR, with variations, on the newly-invented Cambrian Pedal Harp, by Mr. Davies.
4. DUET, by Mr. J. Smith and Mr. Collyer—"Owain Glyndwr's War-song,"—Air—"The rising of the Lark." (*The words by Mrs. Hemans.*)
5. PENNILLION, accompanied on the Welsh Harps after the manner of Wales.
6. SONG, by Miss Williams.—Air—"Lady Owen's Delight."
7. WELSH AIR, with variations, on the Harp, by Mr. Edward Jones, Harper to the King.
8. SONG, by Master Smith.—"The Cambrian Minstrel Boy." (*The words by Mr. Parry.*)
9. A DRUIDICAL SONG, and Chorus, by Mr. Tinney, &c. accompanied on the Harp and Piano Forte. (*Arranged by Mr. Edward Jones.*)

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#### PART II.

1. A DOUBLE GLEE, and Chorus, accompanied on the Harps and the Piano-Forte.—Air—"The Welsh Ground." (*The words by Mrs. Hemans.*)
2. TRIO, by Miss Williams, Miss Hall, and Master Williams.
3. A WELSH AIR, ("Margaret's Daughter") with variations for the Harp, Piano-Forte, Double Flute, and Quadrille Flageolet, by Mr. Parry, Miss Morgan, and Master Parry.
4. SONG, by Mr. J. Smith.—"The Heroes of Cymru."—Air—"Meillionen, or Sir W. W. Wynn's Delight." (*The words by Mr. Humffreys Parry.*)
5. DUET, by Master Smith and Master Parry.—Air—"Nos Galan, or New Year's Eve."

6. AIR, with variations on the Harp, by Mr. Davies.
7. SERENADE, by Mr. Collyer—"Ellen Dear."—Air—"Venture Gwen." (*The words by Mr. Jones, of Swansea.*)
8. DUET, by Mr. Parry and Miss Williams.—Air—"Hob y deri dando." (*The words by Mr. Jones, of Swansea.*)
9. PENNILLION, accompanied on the Welsh Harps.—Air—"Serch Hudol, or the Allurements of Love."
10. FINALE—"God save the King," with a Welsh Stanza written by Mr. Owen Pughe.

It may be invidious perhaps to particularize for its merit any portion of the performance, where none was unworthy of praise; but we must be allowed to specify such parts as afforded *us* the highest gratification, leaving to others full liberty to form a different opinion. Among the vocal performance, the songs, that pleased us most, were, (according to the preceding arrangement), in PART I., No. 2, by Mr. Parry, No. 6, by Miss Williams, No. 8, by Master Smith, and No. 9. The Druidical Song, by Mr. Tinney; in PART II., No. 5, by Masters Smith and Parry, No. 7, by Mr. Collyer, and the Finale, especially the Welsh Stanza, which is finely written, and was judiciously sung by Mr. Parry\*. Of the instrumental music, the airs on the Harp by Mr. Edward Jones and Mr. Davies, and that on the Flageolet by Mr. Parry, had, decidedly, the greatest charms for our ear. Not that we mean to say they were the most national; for, in this point of view, the performance on the Welsh Harp, by Messrs. Pritchard and Thomas, should have the first place. Yet we must be allowed to observe, that, altogether, we were disappointed by the effect of our national instrument on this occasion, and more especially by that of the *Pennillion*, sung with it. Whether it arose from the spaciousness of the room, the diffidence or inexperience of the performers, or from any other cause, it is, however, true, that the effect was not so impressive as had been anticipated. We trust, therefore, that whatever may have been the impediment to the full success of this part of the performance will be removed on any future occasion. The new "Cambrian Pedal Harp" appeared to possess the most power-

\* We take this opportunity of remarking, that the several airs and songs, written by Mrs. Hemans, deserved every praise as poetical compositions; and we were particularly pleased also with the sweet Air of "Ellen Dear" by Mr. Jones, of Swansea.

ful execution, and was admirably played by Mr. Davies. A diversity of opinion, indeed, has been expressed as to the merits of this instrument; but the prevailing sentiment was decidedly in its favour, both as to the fulness of its tones, and the compass and variety of its execution. We have no doubt, therefore, that it will become a favourite with those who delight in this species of music\*. It would be an injustice to close this short and imperfect report of the musical festivities of the Anniversary, without noticing the judicious and well-executed arrangements made by Mr. Parry, whose indefatigable zeal on this occasion, as on every other of a similar nature, cannot be too greatly, nor too gratefully, felt by his countrymen. And we may add, that the general and high satisfaction, with which this Cambrian Concert was received, cannot fail to ensure its repetition hereafter. Among the company present on the occasion were, besides the President, Dowager Lady Wynn, Miss Williams Wynn, and several other ladies of distinctions, Lord Kenyon, Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart. Sir E. P. Lloyd, Bart. J. W. Griffith, Esq. M. P., J. W. Hanmer, Esq. and many gentlemen of the first consequence, whom we really have not space to enumerate. The company amounted nearly to four hundred†.

It only remains, with reference to this portion of the day's proceedings, to state, that between the two Parts of the Concert the names of the successful candidates for the Prize-Poem and Essay, (who are therefore entitled to a Medal and Ten Pounds each), were announced, and proved to be as follows.

- I. The Welsh Poem, or *Cywydd*, on "Hu Gadarn."—Adjudged to the Rev. EDWARD HUGHES, Bodvari, Flintshire‡.
- II. The English Essay on "The general cultivation of the Welsh tongue and its particular use with reference to the poems of

\* We refer the reader to our last Number, p. 425, for a brief account of this newly invented instrument by Mr. Parry.

† The terms of admission to all such, as were not members of the Cymrodorion, were seven shillings each ticket.

‡ There were eight other candidates for this prize, and one of whom, Mr. Thomas Jones (*Bardd Ciof*) who gained the prize last year, honourably withdrew his composition, between which and that of Mr. Hughes the Judges would otherwise have had great difficulty in deciding.

the Welsh Bards, in illustrating historical occurrences.—  
 Adjudged to Mr. HUMFFREYS PARRY\*.

We now arrive at the second division of this Anniversary of the Cymmrodorion; we allude to the business transacted at the General Meeting, which took place between the Concert and Dinner. About forty members were present upon this occasion, and Lord Dynevor was in the chair. The first proceeding was the perusal of a well-written letter from Mr. Hughes, author of "*Horæ Britannicæ*," requesting the favour of the Society to transmit a copy of his work, under the sanction of their name, to the Antiquarian Society of France. The request was, of course, received with unanimous assent; and the Rev. Mr. Rees, of Cascob, who was present, and was about to visit Paris, undertook the execution of the commission. This gentleman, who has since set out, has taken with him a letter on the occasion, from the Cymmrodorion to the French Institution. This circumstance, although of no great importance in itself, cannot fail to keep alive that harmony between the two Societies, which it is so desirable to maintain, and which must tend to promote the peculiar interests of each.

The next proceeding was the proposal of a Resolution, which, as it is of some moment to the interests of Welsh literature, and more particularly for the dissension it is likely to create, we shall here transcribe *verbatim*.

"*Resolved*,—That this Society will henceforth, by all the means in its power, recommend and promote the substitution of the letter v for f, and of the letter F for ff, in Welsh orthography, as an alteration, sanctioned, as well by the practice of all other tongues, as by the ancient mode of writing the Welsh language itself; and, as being moreover consonant with the value universally appropriated to the letters in question, with the exception only of the present anomalous usage in Wales, and which is, accordingly, productive of a confusion decidedly inimical to the interests of our national literature."

The Resolution, which had been previously recommended by the Council, was proposed from the Chair, and acceded to, as far as we could discern, without one dissentient voice. At least no one had the boldness to oppose it, although it was expressly desired, that, if such opposition was felt, it might

\* For this prize there were only two other competitors; but both the rejected Essays were stated to be of considerable merit.



be expressed. But, indeed, it must have required some ingenuity to defend a corruption, of which people are at length beginning to see the inconvenience as well as the absurdity. May the efforts of the Cymmrodorion have, in this instance, the desired effect\*!

When this Resolution had been adopted, the Society proceeded to the election of Officers for the year ensuing, when The Right Hon. Lord Dynevor was kind enough to accept the office of **PRESIDENT**; upon which the Thanks of the Institution were unanimously voted to Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. for the zealous assiduity with which he had discharged the duties of that situation during the two preceding years. The Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Societies in Wales were then elected **VICE-PRESIDENTS** of the Institution, together with several distinguished members of the Cymmrodorion. Some changes were also made in the members of the **COUNCIL**; and Mr. Humffreys Parry was elected **CONDUCTOR** of the **TRANSACTIONS**, and Mr. Griffith Jones, **SUB-LIBRARIAN** of the Society, an office peculiarly suitable to the talents of that gentleman, which promise to be hereafter of material benefit to the cause of Welsh literature. The other Officers of the Institution were unanimously re-elected.

Of the Dinner we have not much to say, notwithstanding that by many it may have been considered as the most important part of the Anniversary. And in some respects it undoubtedly was so; for it has ever been found, in this country at least, that the convivialities of the social board have been essential to the well-being of a public institution. Be the object politics, literature, society, or even religion itself, an annual dinner is become indispensable to the prosperity of the cause; and it may therefore be regarded as fortunate for the public interests of the country, that some of the sumptuary laws of ancient Rome have no operation here. However, to return to our subject, the festival of the Cymmrodorion was numerously and respectably attended. Lord Dynevor presided on the occasion, and was supported by Lord Bulkeley, Sir W. W. Wynn, Sir Edward

\* We shall be excused, we hope, for taking to ourselves some little credit for the share we have had in the production of this result. For, although we were not the first to abandon the general practice in this respect, we believe we are entitled to a precedence in the open exposure of its amazing absurdity.

Pryse Lloyd, and several other gentlemen, connected with Wales, of the highest respectability. The number, that sat down to dinner, was eighty-four, which, we believe, considerably exceeded that of last year, and is, consequently, a proof that the cause gains ground in the estimation of the country. Not to dwell upon the attractions of the table, (which were in the wonted liberal style of the Freemasons' Tavern), the evening was enlivened by the customary alternation of toasts and songs, accompanied by the occasional strains of the harp and piano. *Pennillion* were also again sung at intervals, and had evidently a more pleasing effect than in the morning; which may be ascribed, in some degree, to the dispersed situation of the singers, and also perhaps to the less powerful tones of the harp. But, be this as it may, this national custom had now more of its mountain characteristics than on the former occasion above noticed. The *Cerddorion* were obviously in higher tune, and exerted their powers with more spirit; and it may be, that they felt the same influence, which the elder Cato is reported to have experienced on a similar occasion:—

Narratur et prisce Catonis  
Sæpe mero caluisse virtus.

In fine, the musical entertainments of the evening were scarcely inferior in number to those of the morning, and proved most substantially, that the *decies repetita placebit* was, in this respect, a favourite axiom of the Cymry.

We would beg to suggest, however, whether it might not be of benefit to the interests of the Cymmrodorion, to allow something to be occasionally said, at their Annual Dinner, by the way either of Report or Address, on the particular objects of the Society, in imitation of the practice of other literary institutions. We think it would be of service if this were done; as strangers, who have no other means of being informed on the subject, might thus be induced to lend their aid to the cause. It would also have the effect of eliciting that talent, which may now lie dormant for want of encouragement. Nothing of this sort, however, was attempted at the feast of the Cymmrodorion; though in every other respect it is impossible to speak too highly of the patriotic spirit, with which their Second Anniversary has been celebrated.